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CAERLEON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1950.

- by -

EVELYN D. OWEN,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H..

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.,

- including -

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

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CAERLEON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT.

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1950.

Caerleon.

To the Chairman and Members of the Caerleon Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for your District. It is drawn up according to the directions of the Ministry of Health and includes the report of the Sanitary Officer.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres)...	3256
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid 1950, ...	4664
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1950) according to Rate Book	1216
Rateable Value 1/4/50	£20,744
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£79.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Although there was a slight increase in the accommodation for small factories, and house building was steadily, if slowly, continued during the year, the area can still be described as an Urban District with a rural character, for the considerable rural part has been very little encroached upon, and the population has remained at much the same figure for the last few years.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate.	44	33	77
Illegitimate.	1	1	2
Stillbirths.	1	0	1

Live Birth Rate for year, per 1,000 population.....	16.9
Live Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1950, per 1,000 population.....	15.8
Live Birth Rate for Monmouthshire for 1950, per 1,000 population.....	17.4
Stillbirth Rate for year, per 1,000 population.....	0.21
Stillbirth Rate for England and Wales for 1950, per 1,000 population.....	0.37
Stillbirth Rate for Monmouthshire for 1950, per 1,000 population.....	0.58

The number of deaths in the area during 1950 was as follows:-

Male.	Female.	Total.
30	24	54

Death Rate per 1,000 population.....11.5
Death Rate for England and Wales, 1950.....11.6
Death Rate for Monmouthshire, 1950.....12.3

The causes of death were:-

	Male.	Female.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	0
Non. Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	1
Cancer	0	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	4
Coronary disease, angina	2	0
Hypertension with heart disease	0	0
Other heart disease	15	8
Other circulatory disease	0	2
Pneumonia	1	0
Bronchitis	1	2
Accidents	1	0
Other Causes	4	4
	30	24

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There wereno maternal deaths associated with childbirth.

Maternal mortality per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.
for England and Wales..... 0.86
for Monmouthshire..... 1.73

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were no deaths of infants under one year of age.
Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age, for England and Wales, per 1,000 live births..... 29.8
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age, for Monmouthshire per 1,000 live births..... 39.8

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:
The staff consisted of:-

(a) One part-time Medical Officer of Health, who is also Medical Officer for No.8 Health Area of Monmouthshire County Council.
(b) Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, Mr.D.J. Phillips, M.E., M.R.S.I..

The duties of the Medical Officer of Health comprised presentation of monthly reports to the Public Health Committee of the Council and attendance at Council Meetings; furnishing periodical reports to the County Medical Officer,

and the Ministry of Health; taking the appropriate measures for the control and prevention of spread of Infectious Diseases; and advising on matters of Public Health generally.

The duties of the Sanitary Officer comprised housing estate maintenance, inspection of Foods and Shops, and duties as laid down in the Sanitary Order, 1926.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Local Health Services under Part 111 are provided by the Monmouthshire County Council.

(a) Clinics.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is held fortnightly in a local Church Schoolroom. A colleague assists the local health visitor at this Clinic. With the co-operation of the Matron and of the Regional Hospital Board, another Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic was opened in the Out Patients Department of the Lydia Beynon Maternity Hospital to serve the Christchurch Area. It also is held forthnightly and is much appreciated by the local inhabitants. The Ante-Natal Clinic is held fortnightly at Newport.

(b) Domiciliary Midwifery and Home Nursing.

The midwife married during the year and left Caerleon. Her work was undertaken by the district nurse-midwife who was already working in the Christchurch part of the area as well as in the adjoining district. Good service was also rendered by the district nurse whose work likewise extends into a neighbouring area.

(c) Ambulance Service.

The headquarters of the County Ambulance Service are situated in the area.

(d) Domestic Help Service.

This is administered as part of the No. 8 Area of the Health Services of the Monmouthshire County Council. Part-time domestic helps have rendered good service to the district wherever home conditions have given rise to the need for their assistance.

(e) Vaccination and Immunisation.

These were carried out by the general practitioners as well as at the Clinics. 35 were immunised; all but 5 being under five years of age. During the late Summer and Autumn no immunisations were undertaken at the Clinics. This was because cases of acute poliomyelitis were occurring in various parts of the County, and in view of the association of this disease with various inoculations in certain cases, it was considered to be advisable to postpone the procedure for a few months.

(33 people were vaccinated during the year, 28 being children under 15 years of age.)

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.
No action was taken under this section.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Public Cleaning.

The "S & D" Freighter gave useful service collecting refuse for three days every week. The siting of the pre-fabricated bungalows has added much to the labour of Collection. There are 50 bungalows in Caerleon and 187 on the Treberth Estate to be served every week. The manufacturers'mechanic periodically inspects and attends to the Freighter. A "Karrier" vehicle utilised for general work is available as reserve in case of breakdown. Transport is therefore satisfactory.

Smoke Nuisances.

There was no complaint of this nature.

Schools.

The sanitary accommodation and water service have proved satisfactory at the two local Primary Schhols and the Monmouthshire Training College.

Factories.

Three light engineering works commenced, and they are proving most satisfactory in providing work in the district.

Rivers and Streams.

There is no reduction in the pollution of the River Usk and Avon Llwyd prior to reaching in the Urban Area.

Water Service.

The main water service has proved satisfactory, except at the Lodge Camp during the day period when the elevation, corrosion of the existing pipes and possible leakages, have at times caused some shortage of supplies.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewerage system of Caerleon has proved satisfactory. The Village and the west side of Christchurch are without a sewerage scheme, and have to rely on cesspools and primitive methods of sanitation. There is a scheme in view for these areas under consideration by the Consulting Engineers.

Shops.

The shops are administered under the Shops Act, 1950,and all shopkeepers have endeavoured to comply with the new requirements.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The Lido is well maintained, all water passing through a mechanical filter and being efficiently aerated during the Summer Swimming Season.

Rodent Control.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, (Repealing the Rats and Mice ((Destruction)) Act, 1919) came into force on the 31st March, 1950. Under the provisions of the Act it is the duty of the Council to take such steps as may be necessary to secure as far as is practicable that their District is kept free from Rats and Mice. A part-time Rodent Operator has been engaged by the Council his services proving satisfactory, every precaution is taken to prevent any major or minor infestation, and the Council have approved that all dis-infestation work carried out must be free of any charges. All pre-baiting and baiting is carried out in accordance with the Regulations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Cemetery.

The chemo for a new Cemetery under consideration by the Council has been approved by the Welsh Board of Health, and final arrangements made for the approval of Tenders.

Housing.

Twenty Traditional type houses were completed during the year, they proved satisfactory and an asset to the District. Fifteight non-traditional Cornish houses are in course of construction, and further layout plan to extend the Lodge Site is in preparation.

Milk Supply.

One sample of "accredited" milk taken for bacteriological analysis gave a positive result to the animal inoculation test for tuberculosis. A notice-with which he complied-was served on the occupier of the premises where the milk was produced prohibiting the sale of such milk for human consumption unless the milk had fist of all been subjected to efficient heat treatment. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was informed of the circumstances and the Milk Officer of the Ministry of Food was notified of the action taken. Later, when the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries reported that the herd concerned was free of infection the notice was withdrawn and the Milk Officer was again informed.

Clean Food Campaign.

Byelawas.

It was decided to make Byelaws after the pattern of the model byelaws issued by the Ministry of Food, for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption, and in connection with the sale or exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption. Owing to some delay in the formalities these byelaws did not come into force during the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

(1) Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	130.
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	130.
2.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	15
3.		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under 2 found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	115.

(2) Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority, or its' officers.	34.

(3) Action under Statutory Powers.

1. Proceedings under Section 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act,1936.

(a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. 14.

(b) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice. 6.

(c) Number of houses condemned and in occupation. 14.

(d) Number of houses that could probably be condemned and action taken, under the Housing Acts 1936 and 1940. 50.

2. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 35.

(b) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice. 10.

3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts, 1936.

(a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. 4.

(b) Number of dwelling houses which were demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. 1.

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Acts, 1936.

(a) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. 0.

(b) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. 0.

	Pre-fab.	Perm. Pre-fab.	Tradtitional Houses.
Number of houses owned by local authority on the 31.12.50.	50.	22.	96.
Number of local authority houses in course of erection on the 31.12.50.	-	36.	-
Number of houses for which sanction has been given but which had not been commenced on 31.12.50.	-	16.	-
Total erected during the year.			
By Local Authority.	-	22.	20.
By Private enterprise.			4.

Number of houses under contruction by Private Enterprise but not completed on 31.12.50.....1

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & BAKEHOUSES.

Three inspections of Registered Factories, workshops, and Bakehouses were made during the year.

Sanitary defects found..... 1.
Defects remedied..... 1.
Insufficient sanitary accommodation..... 1.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1950.

Age Period.	New Cases. Resp. M.	New Cases. Resp. F.	New Cases. Non.-Resp. M.	New Cases. Non.-Resp. F.	Deaths. Resp. M.	Deaths. Resp. F.	Deaths. Non-Resp. M.	Deaths. Non-Resp. F.
0 - 1 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -10 "	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
10-15 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-20 "	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
20-25 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35 "	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45 "	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55 "	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
55, and up.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	2	3	1	3	2	1	-	-

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Food Poisoning.

No food poisoning outbreaks occurred during the year.

Infectious Diseases were few.

Measles.

2 children suffering from Measles were admitted to an Isolation Hospital because they were living in a Children's Home where the facilities for isolation were inadequate.

There was no case of diptheria or acute Poliomyelitis.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.
(OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING 1950.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Small Pox.	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	8	2	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-
Enteric Fever including Paratyphoid.	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyroxia.	6	-	-
Pneumonia.	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
Measles.	12	2	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	10	-	-
Erysipelas.	1	-	-

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Periodic inspections of foodstuffs have been made during the year.

UNSOUND FOODSTUFFS. The following have been surrendered and destroyed:-

Tinned food.....7lbs. Butter.....6lbs. Cheese.....4lbs
Tea.....8lbs.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
EVELYN D. OWEN.
Medical Officer of Health.